

September 20, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Julian called the special meeting of the Kasson Township Board to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Greg Julian – Supervisor, Julia Carter – Treasurer, Dana Boomer – Clerk, Roger Noonan – Trustee, Tad Carter - Trustee

Member(s) Absent: None

Staff Present: Tim Cypher

AGENDA - The public notice will be used as the agenda for the meeting. The meeting is for the purpose of discussing and potentially taking action regarding the proposed reconstruction of Baatz Road by Elmers.

DISCUSSION

Elmers has proposed to the Leelanau County Road Commission that they be allowed to re-construct Baatz Road between CR-669 (Coleman Road) and Fritz Road and include a box culvert to allow the movement by conveyor of material between pits on either side of the Baatz Road. The LCRC has a meeting tomorrow evening at which they will discuss, according to Brendan Mullane, whether to give “preliminary approval”, which will allow staff to begin the process of reviews and township coordination.

The special meeting was called to discuss this proposal, after board members received comments from concerned citizens after a Leelanau Enterprise article on the subject. Noonan is concerned that Kasson Township was not notified of this before the LCRC began discussion on the subject. His main concern is the time frame – Elmers is proposing the road be closed for 8 to 12 months. This will re-route a substantial amount of traffic from the north stretch of Fritz Road down the south stretch of Fritz Road to the intersection of M-72 and Fritz Road, which is a bad intersection for visibility. Noonan hopes the LCRC will place the subject on hold until the township has been given more information.

Noonan would like to send a letter to the LCRC requesting that the LCRC table the project until the township has received a presentation on the topic. In addition, the letter should present the board’s concern on the length of the proposed closure.

The board discussed the standing of the board to intervene in this. The Zoning Ordinance states that there are setbacks for all mining operations from public roads. A conveyor transporting mined goods would likely constitute “mining operations”, according to Cypher. Cypher will be discussing this with Grier to confirm his interpretation.

The board had a consensus to request by letter that the LCRC table the matter of the reconstruction of Baatz Road until a meeting can be set up between the LCRC, Elmers, and the township board to

present the project. In addition, the letter to the LCRC should contain the concerns regarding the detour and length of the project. The letter may also mention that there is a meeting set between Cypher and Elmers representatives on Thursday, September 23 to discuss the permitting for a new pit on the north side of Baatz Road. Julian will draft this letter to send to the LCRC prior to tomorrow's LCRC meeting.

There was no other business before the board.

BOARD COMMENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Motion by R. Noonan to adjourn, second by J. Carter/**PASSED 5-0.** Meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Submitted by:
Dana Boomer, Clerk